



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 4/27/2004

GAIN Report Number: TH4048

Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2004

Approved by:

Rodrick McSherry, Agricultural Counselor
U.S. Embassy, Bangkok

Prepared by:

Ponnarong Prasertsri, Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

Export prices increased slightly in response to the concern over the smaller second crop.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1]
[TH]

Indicative Price (Week Ending Apr. 26):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	505	490	555	497	500	505	505	508	509
WR 100 B	245	245	257	242	252	248	242	247	246
PB 5%	247	241	266	256	262	260	250	255	253
WR 5%	240	240	249	236	246	242	237	241	240
WR 10%	237	235	244	234	242	239	232	238	236
WR 15%	233	233	239	231	239	236	227	234	233
WR 25%	230	230	238	225	230	230	222	229	228
WR 35%	227	228	235	222	227	228	217	226	225
A 1 SUP	214	215	222	216	214	216	210	216	215
A 1 SPEC	212	214	221	214	213	-	208	214	214
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

Market Tone

Export prices for most grades of rice increased slightly from the slowdown in the last couple of weeks. Trade sources reported that local rice millers are so concerned over smaller supply of second crop due to current dry weather conditions and low level of water in major dams. Most millers are reportedly building up their stocks and cautious to sell their rice even to regular buyers, despite the recent official marginal revision of the second crop to 5.7 million tons of paddy. Trade sources sought the release of the government stock, which was suspended until next month, in order to ease domestic prices.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
MAR 7	101,059	126,177	996	745
MAR 14	130,625	126,232	1,127	814
MAR 21	140,127	128,698	1,267	893
MAR 28	148,836	130,162	1,416	964
APR 4	158,732	144,580	1,575	1,057
APR 11	127,829	143,881	1,703	1,133
APR 18	92,426	131,956	1,795	1,181
APR 25	163,685	135,668	1,959	1,298

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Apr. 19-25, 2004 totaled 163,685 tons, up 71,259 tons from the previous week's total and up 28,017 tons from the four-week moving average of 135,668 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Apr. 25, 2004 totaled 1,958,685 tons, compared with 1,297,741 tons during the same period in 2003.

According to the Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1- Mar. 31, 2004, amounted to 2.1 million tons, up 29 percent from the same period in the previous year.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Apr. 5-9, Apr. 12-16, and Apr. 19-23, 2004 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Apr. 5-9	Apr. 12-16	Apr. 19-23
weekly sales	220,761	189,046	287,878
4 week sum	873,970	830,779	924,900
4 week mov. avg.	218,493	207,695	231,225
Total weekly sales	2,204,805	2,393,851	2,681,729

End of Report.